

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-02 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10

OIC-02 IO-14 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 STR-06

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01

DOE-11 STRE-00 /172 W

-----004725 251621Z /46

P 251452Z JAN 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5112

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

ALL EC CAPITALS

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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USMTN

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PASS STR FOR INFO

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, MTN, GATT

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR STRAUSS' STATEMENT AT TABLING OF  
OFFERS

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR

STRAUSS AT THE INFORMAL MTN MEETING ON THE OCCASION OF  
TABLING OF OFFERS JANUARY 23:

BEGIN TEXT

THEY SAID THAT THESE NEGOTIATIONS WERE DEAD FOR 1977, AND  
THAT NOTHING COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED IN 1978--AND WE SAID  
THEY WERE WRONG.

THEY SAID THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY COULD  
NEVER GET TOGETHER FOR MTN--AND WE SAID THEY WERE WRONG.

THEY SAID THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS COULD  
NEVER AGREE ON A PLAN FOR PROGRESS--AND WE SAID THEY  
WERE WRONG.

THEY SAID OUR TIMETABLE WAS A FRAUD AND A SHAM AND WOULD  
NEVER BE MET--AND AGAIN WE SAID THEY WERE WRONG.

THEY SAID WE WOULD NEVER BE HERE, AROUND THIS TABLE  
TODAY--BUT BY OUR PRESENCE, WE SHOW THE SKEPTICS OF THE  
WORLD THAT THEY WERE WRONG, AND IF THE VOICES OF NEGATIV-  
ISM CONTINUE TO UNDERESTIMATE OUR DETERMINATION THEY WILL  
CONTINUE TO BE WRONG.

IF WE ARE TO EXPAND OUR ECONOMIES, WE MUST EXPAND OUR  
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TRADE, AND THE WORK WE ARE ABOUT HERE IN GENEVA WILL  
PRODUCE THAT NECESSARY RESULT. WORLD TRADE TODAY IN-  
VOLVES ONE-SIXTH OF EVERYTHING GROWN OR MADE ON THIS  
PLANET. THIS IS ONE MILLION MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH  
OF BETTER JOBS, BETTER LIVING STANDARDS, AND BETTER  
CHOICES OF PRODUCTS AND PRODUCE FOR OUR PEOPLE.

WE TOOK OUR FIRST POSITIVE STEP FORWARD WHEN WE SET OUR  
TIMETABLE, AND OUR SECOND STEP IN DECEMBER, WHEN DOCU-  
MENTS WERE CIRCULATED ON SEVERAL CODES DEALING WITH NON-  
TARIFF BARRIERS. ANOTHER STEP HAS BEEN TAKEN WITH THE  
TABLING OF OFFERS FOR REDUCTION OF SPECIFIC NON-TARIFF  
BARRIERS. AND STILL ANOTHER IS THE TABLING OF OFFERS  
FOR REDUCTIONS IN TARIFFS.

OF COURSE, THE TABLING OF OFFERS OR THE CIRCULATING OF  
PROPOSED CODES IS NOT AN END. IT IS BUT THE BEGINNING  
OF OUR HARDEST WORK, DESPITE THE FACT THAT WE HAVE WORKED  
SO HARD TO GET HERE. I HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT WHERE  
WE ARE, BUT I HAVE NO RESERVATIONS ABOUT MOVING INTO THE  
NEXT PHASE, BECAUSE IT IS OUR HISTORIC RESPONSIBILITY  
TO SHARE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REDUCE TRADE BARRIERS AND

STRENGTHEN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING  
SYSTEM. SHOULD WE FAIL, THE COST TO EACH OF OUR NATIONS  
AND TO THE WORLD AS A WHOLE WILL BE INCALCULABLE. OUR  
MARKETS WOULD CLOSE, UNEMPLOYMENT WOULD BECOME ENDEMIC,  
AND GOVERNMENTS WOULD FALL. WHEN WE SUCCEED, WE WILL  
EACH HAVE MADE OUR PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARD A BETTER  
WORLD IN WHICH TO LIVE.

WE HAVE SEEN VAST CHANGES IN THE WORLD ECONOMY IN THE  
LAST FEW YEARS, AND A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN REALIZING OUR  
POTENTIAL FOR PRODUCTION, CONTRIBUTING TO GREAT STRAINS  
IN OUR TRADING SYSTEM. JUST A FEW NIGHTS AGO I SAT WITH  
PRESIDENT CARTER AS HE DELIVERED HIS STATE OF THE UNION  
MESSAGE TO THE CONGRESS WHERE HE SAID, "DESPITE THE  
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INEVITABLE PRESSURES WHICH DEVELOP WHEN THE WORLD ECONOMY

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DOE-11 STRE-00 /172 W

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P 251452Z JAN 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5113

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

ALL EC CAPITALS

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AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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SUFFERS FROM HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT, WE MUST FIRMLY RESIST THE DEMANDS FOR SELF-DEFEATING PROTECTIONISM." THE PRESIDENT PLEDGED TO WORK WITH OUR FRIENDS TO "PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC HEALTH OF THE WORLD WITH FAIR AND BALANCED AGREEMENTS LOWERING BARRIERS TO TRADE."

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THE WAY TO HOLD BACK THE THREAT OF PROTECTIONISM IS TO DO OUR JOB PROPERLY HERE, AND THEREBY INCREASE THE OPPORTUNITIES OF OUR PEOPLES TO SHARE IN THE MARKETS OF THE WORLD WITH TRADE POLICIES THAT ARE NOT ONLY FREE, BUT ALSO FAIR, JUST AND EQUAL.

WITH THIS ECONOMIC IMPERATIVE IN MIND, I MUST REMIND YOU THAT THERE ARE AREAS WHERE THESE NEGOTIATIONS ARE SERIOUSLY LAGGING; IN EACH LIES THE POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE CONFLICT, IF NOT THE RISK OF LOSING WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED IN THIS FORUM IN THE LAST 30 YEARS; WE ONLY HAVE A SHORT TRUCE IN THE AREA OF SUBSIDIES AND OFFSETTING MEASURES AND NO CLEAR AGREEMENT ON HOW TO AVOID FUTURE CONFLICT; IN AGRICULTURE, WE LACK AGREEMENT ON BOTH PRINCIPLE AND PRACTICE, AND THE GATT HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY INEFFECTIVE. WE HAVE NO AGREEMENT ON THE ROLE, THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS, OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; IN THE AREA OF SAFEGUARDS, WE WILL EITHER HAVE AN INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS ON APPROPRIATE RULES OR THE REAL THREAT OF CHAOTIC INTERFERENCE IN TRADE; WE EVEN LACK SIMPLE EFFECTIVE PROCEDURES TO MANAGE TRADE DISPUTES.

IN SHORT, THE WORK AHEAD IS ENORMOUS, AND OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO ALL OF US.

OUR OBJECTIVE MUST NOT BE TO SLOW THE NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL THESE AREAS CATCH UP, BUT RATHER TO ACCELERATE OUR SOLUTION OF THOSE PROBLEM AREAS SO THAT THEY MAY KEEP PACE. EACH OF THESE AREAS IS CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION WE SEEK.

SO LET NO ONE MISJUDGE: OUR DETERMINATION TO MEET A

SCHEDULE AND TO COMPLETE A TASK DOES NOT IN ANY WAY MEAN  
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A LESSENING OF OUR DETERMINATION TO COME TO GRIPS WITH  
THE MORE DIFFICULT MEASURES BEFORE US AND ACHIEVE SUB-  
STANTIVE RESULTS.

IF WE CANNOT DEVELOP A SATISFACTORY AGREEMENT ON SUB-  
SIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, THIS MATTER WILL HANG  
HEAVY OVER OUR HEADS IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THREATENING  
OUR TRADE RELATIONS.

WHILE NATIONS MUST HAVE THE MEANS TO REACT WHEN ABRUPT  
SURGES IN IMPORTS DISRUPT THEIR ECONOMIES, THIS MUST BE  
WITHIN AN AGREED INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK.

THERE MUST BE A SATISFACTORY RESULT FROM OUR NEGOTIATIONS  
ON AGRICULTURE, OR THERE WILL BE NO RESULT AT ALL.

THERE MUST BE MOVEMENT ON THE ISSUES OF DIRECT CONCERN  
TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WITH A VIEW TOWARD ENCOUR-  
AGING THEIR FULLER PARTICIPATION IN THIS TRADING SYSTEM.  
AS YOU KNOW FROM OUR EARLIER PUBLISHED POSITION, THE  
UNITED STATES STRONGLY FAVORS SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL  
TREATMENT AS LONG AS THESE MEASURES CONTRIBUTE TO TRADE  
LIBERALIZATION. IN FASHIONING THE U.S. OFFER ON TARIFF  
AND NON-TARIFF BARRIER CONCESSIONS WE HAVE TRIED TO TAKE  
INTO FULL ACCOUNT THE SPECIAL INTERESTS OF THE DEVELOPING  
COUNTRIES, AND I TRUST THAT IN THIS NEXT PHASE OF THE  
NEGOTIATIONS THEY WILL LET US KNOW THEIR SPECIFIC INTER-  
ESTS WITH RESPECT TO TRADE OFFERS. EACH OF US HERE TODAY  
APPRECIATES HOW MUCH WE HAVE YET BEFORE US. IT COULD  
BE TEMPTING TO RELAX AND PONDER OUR PROBLEMS AT LEISURE.

BUT OUR NATIONS CANNOT AFFORD THE LUXURY OF RELAXATION  
OR DELAY.

WE MUST MOVE FORWARD QUICKLY, WE MUST TAKE THE INITIATIVE

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WHEN WE CAN, WE MUST BE FLEXIBLE IN OUR POSITIONS.

THIS IS OUR OPPORTUNITY AS NEGOTIATORS, AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS REPRESENTATIVES OF OUR PEOPLE.

THIS ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS BEGAN FOUR YEARS AGO. IT  
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BEGAN IN EARNEST SIX MONTHS AGO. IT BEGINS IN URGENCY  
TODAY. THE RESULTS MUST SEE US THROUGH THE NEXT TWO  
DECADES.

I AM PLEASED AT HOW FAR WE HAVE COME SINCE LAST SUMMER.  
THIS PROGRESS HAS TAKEN A GREAT MEASURE OF GOOD WILL,  
GOOD FAITH, AND TRUST. WE HAVE BROUGHT THESE TALKS  
FORWARD TO THE POINT WHERE WE CAN, WITH DEDICATION, SEE  
THEM THROUGH TO A SUCCESSFUL END BY MID-YEAR.

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL AND HIS ABLE STAFF HAVE EXPENDED  
GREAT EFFORTS FOR WHICH THEY DESERVE TO BE COMMENDED.

I CANNOT LET THE MOMENT PASS WITHOUT ALSO COMMENDING ALL  
OF MY DISTINGUISHED COUNTERPARTS WHO HAVE TAKEN THIS  
OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR LEADERSHIP.

TO ALL OF YOU HERE WITH ME TODAY, LET ME SAY THAT WE ARE  
PARTNERS IN A CHALLENGING VENTURE WHICH OFFERS GREAT  
BENEFITS FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD TODAY AND FOR MANY  
YEARS TO COME. IN THE WORDS OF FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT,  
"WE HAVE A RENDEZVOUS WITH DESTINY"--I WELCOME EACH OF  
YOU AS FULL PARTNERS IN THIS NOBLE UNDERTAKING.

END QUOTE. MCDONALD

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AMBASSADOR STRAUSS' STATEMENT AT TABLING OF OFFERS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, MTN, GATT, (STRAUSS, ROBERT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/74d1a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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